



AG DIGEST



2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9405
Phone: 717-787-3904
FAX: 717-782-4011

Released: Late December 1999

Bi-Monthly

Vol. 99 No. 24

Highlights

Milk Production
Manufactured Dairy Production
Potato Stocks & Production
Crop Summary
Poultry Slaughter
Farm Marketing - Field Crops

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Products	Oct 1998	Sep 1999	Oct 1999
000 Lbs.			
PENNSYLVANIA			
Butter	5,211	7,491	8,090
Ice Cream	3,646	4,629	3,513
UNITED STATES			
Butter	88,497	78,773	93,312
Cheese:			
American Types	266,840	283,603	297,798
Swiss	15,188	17,307	17,188
Brick and Muenster	9,220	6,922	6,530
Cream and Neufchatel ..	62,700	57,305	64,533
Blue	4,514	4,368	4,752
Mozzarella	200,272	202,067	205,024
Other Italian	55,477	48,516	51,490
Total Italian Types	255,749	250,583	256,514
All Other	11,408	10,677	10,395
Total	632,137	638,411	664,959
Cottage Cheese, Curd ...	39,135	39,971	37,541
Cottage Cheese, Cream ...	30,438	31,246	29,149
Cottage Cheese, Lowfat ...	30,248	31,472	29,251
NF Dry Milk, Human	75,039	90,566	101,600
000 Gal.			
FROZEN PRODUCTS:			
Ice Cream, Hard	64,844	71,766	62,528
Ice Cream, Lowfat	29,060	32,481	27,687
Ice Cream, Nonfat	2,917	3,181	2,610
Sherbet	3,547	4,272	3,396
MIX FOR PRODUCTS:			
Ice Cream Mix	36,328	40,177	36,732
Ice Cream Mix, Lowfat ...	16,258	17,735	15,091
Ice Cream Mix, Nonfat ...	1,746	1,903	1,520
Sherbet Mix	2,532	2,867	2,393

The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm>

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in **Pennsylvania** during November 1999 totaled 878 million pounds, 2.6 percent above last year's production. The number of milk cows in the state during the month averaged 618,000 head, 1,000 more than October and 2,000 less than November 1998. Production per cow averaged 1,420 pounds in November, 30 pounds less than October but 40 pounds more than November 1998.

Milk production in the **20 states surveyed** during November 1999 totaled 11.3 billion pounds, up 4.4 percent compared to production during November 1998. October revised production, at 11.6 billion pounds, was up 4.0 percent from October 1998. The number of milk cows on farms averaged 7.76 million head, 58,000 head more than a year earlier and 7,000 head more than October 1999. Production per cow averaged 1,458 pounds for November, 51 pounds above November 1998.

During the July-September period, the 20 major states produced 86.3 percent of the nation's production. If producers in the remaining 30 states not surveyed monthly followed the trend shown by the 20 reporting states, U.S. milk production for November 1999 would be 13.2 billion pounds.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

United States' butter production was 93.3 million pounds in October, 5.4 percent above October 1998 and 18.5 percent above September 1999. Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 665 million pounds, 5.2 percent above October 1998 and 4.2 percent above September 1999. American type cheese production totaled 298 million pounds, 11.6 percent above October 1998 and 5.0 percent above September 1999. Cream cottage cheese production was 29.1 million pounds, 4.2 percent below October 1998 and 6.7 percent below September 1999. Lowfat cottage cheese production was 29.3 million pounds, 3.3 percent below October 1998 and 7.1 percent below September 1999. Frozen desserts (comparisons with October 1998): ice cream (hard) - 62.5 million gallons, down 3.6 percent; ice cream (lowfat) - 27.7 million gallons, down 4.7 percent; ice cream (nonfat) - 2.61 million gallons, down 10.5 percent; sherbet (hard) - 3.40 million gallons, down 4.3 percent.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			20 States		
		Nov 1998	Oct 1999	Nov 1999	Nov 1998	Oct 1999	Nov 1999
Milk Cows	Thous.	620	617	618	7,697	7,748	7,755
Milk Per Cow	Lbs.	1,380	1,450	1,420	1,407	1,493	1,458
Milk Production	Mil. Lbs.	856	895	878	10,829	11,569	11,306

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1999 POTATO PRODUCTION

Pennsylvania's 1999 fall potato production is estimated at 3,080,000 cwt., an 8 percent decrease from last year's production. Acreage harvested is estimated at 14,000 acres, unchanged from 1998. Average yield this year was 220 cwt. per acre, 20 cwt. below last year's yield and 15 cwt. below 1997's yield.

Total stocks of potatoes stored in Pennsylvania on December 1, 1999, were 1,600,000 cwt., 2 percent below a year ago. Of this amount, 500,000 cwt. were stored in processor's facilities. This represents 31 percent of total stocks.

U.S. fall production is estimated at 429 million cwt. in 1999, down 1 percent from last year but 1 percent above 1997. Harvested area totaled 1.17 million acres, down 4 percent from 1998 but 2 percent below 1997. The average yield is 368 cwt. per acre, up 12 cwt. from last year and 11 cwt. above 1997.

Stocks in the U.S. on December 1, 1999, at 275 million cwt. in the 15 storage states, were down 2 percent from last year. Disappearance from start of harvest to December 1 was 146 million cwt., up 2 percent from the same period in 1998. Processing totaled 74.6 million cwt. used so far this season. This is up 1 percent from a year ago and 4 percent above 1997.

Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes not yet moved and shrinkage, waste, and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes for the past 5 years averaged 90.7 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.3 percent. Most seed for use the following year is on hand December 1st, but remains as part of stocks until moved or planted.

FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION & STOCKS ON DECEMBER 1, 1998-99

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 1998	% of Production	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 1999	% of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
California	3,708	2,800	76	4,005	3,200	80
Colorado	25,360	19,000	75	25,762	19,500	76
Idaho	138,000	99,500	72	133,330	96,000	72
Maine	18,060	14,100	78	17,813	14,500	81
Michigan	14,648	9,100	62	14,963	8,800	59
Minnesota	21,170	13,500	64	18,020	10,000	55
Montana	3,180	3,050	96	3,325	3,220	97
Nebraska	8,175	4,700	57	8,904	5,300	60
New York	7,290	3,400	47	6,758	3,700	55
North Dakota	28,670	20,500	72	26,400	16,500	63
Ohio	1,200	260	22	987	250	25
Oregon	26,229	20,000	76	28,020	22,800	81
Pennsylvania	3,360	2,000	60	3,080	1,600	52
Washington	93,225	49,000	53	95,200	48,000	50
Wisconsin	30,895	20,000	65	34,000	21,500	63
15 State Total	423,170	280,910	66	420,567	274,870	65

FALL POTATOES BY STATE, 1997-1999

State	Area Planted			Area Harvested			Yield			Production		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	1,000 Acres						Cwt			1,000 Cwt		
California	10.5	10.3	9.0	10.5	10.3	9.0	400	360	445	4,200	3,708	4,005
Colorado	77.0	75.8	77.2	76.9	75.7	76.9	325	335	335	24,993	25,360	25,762
Idaho-10 SW Co ..	27.0	28.0	26.0	27.0	28.0	26.0	470	450	470	12,690	12,600	12,220
Other ID	373.0	382.0	369.0	371.0	380.0	367.0	344	330	330	127,624	125,400	121,110
Indiana	4.9	5.3	5.2	4.5	5.0	4.9	260	320	270	1,170	1,600	1,323
Maine	72.0	65.5	65.0	72.0	64.5	62.5	265	280	285	19,080	18,060	17,813
Massachusetts ...	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	270	235	255	810	682	740
Michigan	48.0	47.0	48.0	47.5	46.5	47.5	300	315	315	14,250	14,648	14,963
Minnesota	77.0	82.0	70.0	73.0	73.0	53.0	280	290	340	20,440	21,170	18,020
Montana	10.4	10.6	11.0	10.4	10.6	10.9	320	300	305	3,328	3,180	3,325
Nebraska	20.0	22.0	21.6	19.9	21.8	21.2	390	375	420	7,761	8,175	8,904
Nevada	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.9	7.0	6.5	430	400	440	2,967	2,800	2,860
New Mexico	6.1	6.2	6.6	6.1	5.9	6.6	390	380	320	2,379	2,242	2,112
New York	26.5	27.6	26.0	26.0	27.0	25.5	275	270	265	7,150	7,290	6,758
North Dakota	125.0	126.0	121.0	110.0	122.0	110.0	200	235	240	22,000	28,670	26,400
Ohio	5.3	5.1	4.8	5.2	4.8	4.7	225	250	210	1,170	1,200	987
Oregon-Malheur ..	11.0	11.5	10.5	10.9	11.4	10.5	440	400	440	4,796	4,560	4,620
Other Or	45.5	47.5	45.5	44.6	46.6	45.0	505	465	520	22,523	21,669	23,400
Pennsylvania	14.0	14.5	14.5	13.5	14.0	14.0	235	240	220	3,173	3,360	3,080
Rhode Island	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	270	210	225	216	147	135
South Dakota	4.6	5.0	3.5	4.4	4.8	3.4	220	260	290	968	1,248	986
Utah	3.3	2.7	2.0	3.3	2.6	2.0	290	280	290	957	728	580
Washington	152.0	165.0	170.0	152.0	165.0	170.0	580	565	560	88,160	93,225	95,200
Wisconsin	85.5	84.5	86.0	85.0	83.5	85.0	355	370	400	30,175	30,895	34,000
Wyoming	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.5	300	300	295	210	120	148
Total	1,210.1	1,235.1	1,203.0	1,185.1	1,214.0	1,166.1	357	356	368	423,190	432,737	429,451

CROP SUMMARY - UNITED STATES, 1998-99

Crop	Acreage (000)				Production				Unit
	Planted		Harvested		Yield		(000)		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
GRAINS & HAY:									
Barley	6,337.0	5,223.0	5,864.0	4,758.0	60.0	59.2	352,125	281,853	Bu.
Corn for Grain ¹	80,187.0	77,611.0	72,604.0	70,925.0	134.4	134.5	9,761,085	9,537,137	Bu.
Corn for Silage	-	-	5,919.0	-	16.0	-	94,525	-	Ton
Hay, All	-	-	60,016.0	62,051.0	2.52	2.60	151,338	161,385	Ton
Alfalfa	-	-	23,642.0	23,968.0	3.47	3.57	82,010	85,487	Ton
All Other	-	-	36,374.0	38,083.0	1.91	1.99	69,328	75,898	Ton
Oats	4,892.0	4,670.0	2,755.0	2,455.0	60.2	59.7	165,981	146,506	Bu.
Rye	1,566.0	1,582.0	418.0	383.0	29.1	28.7	12,161	10,993	Bu.
Sorghum for Grain ¹ . . .	9,626.0	9,299.0	7,723.0	8,499.0	67.3	70.2	519,933	596,482	Bu.
Sorghum for Silage	-	-	305.0	-	11.4	-	3,487	-	Ton
Wheat, All	65,821.0	62,998.0	59,002.0	54,069.0	43.2	42.7	2,547,321	2,307,951	Bu.
Winter	46,449.0	43,425.0	40,126.0	35,542.0	46.9	47.8	1,880,733	1,698,369	Bu.
Duram	3,805.0	4,075.0	3,728.0	3,609.0	37.0	27.8	138,119	100,402	Bu.
Other Spring	15,567.0	15,498.0	15,148.0	14,918.0	34.9	34.1	528,469	509,180	Bu.
OILSEEDS:									
Canola	1,127.0	1,095.0	1,092.0	1,067.0	1,455	-	1,588,620	-	Lb.
Flaxseed	336.0	341.0	329.0	334.0	20.4	-	6,708	-	Bu.
Mustard Seed	98.9	59.7	95.6	58.2	855	-	81,750	-	Lb.
Rapeseed	4.8	3.5	4.7	3.5	1,353	-	6,360	-	Lb.
Safflower	303.0	313.0	285.0	294.0	1,446	-	412,085	-	Lb.
Soybeans for Beans . .	72,025.0	74,145.0	70,441.0	72,786.0	38.9	36.7	2,741,014	2,672,972	Bu.
Sunflower	3,568.0	3,676.0	3,492.0	3,593.0	1,510	1,404	5,273,162	5,043,370	Lb.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

GENERAL CROP COMMENTS, NOVEMBER 1999

Crops quickly ripened, as above-normal temperatures prevailed across most of the country near mid-month and again late in the month. Below-normal precipitation promoted rapid harvest in the Corn Belt, Great Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southwest. In the Atlantic Coastal Plains, periods of heavy precipitation hampered harvest efforts. Moisture shortages delayed winter wheat planting in the Pacific Northwest and hindered emergence and growth in parts of the Corn Belt and Great Plains.

Ninety-four percent of the corn crop was mature by October 3, more than a week ahead of the 5-year average. Fields quickly ripened in the Great Plains and northern Corn Belt early in the month, especially in Colorado where development lagged behind normal. In most other areas of the Corn Belt, nearly all of the corn acreage was mature on October 3. By the end of the month, 89 percent of the corn was harvested, more than 1 week ahead of normal due to nearly ideal harvest weather. Harvest proceeded far ahead of normal in the eastern Corn Belt and advanced well ahead of normal average in the western Corn Belt. Slow crop development hindered harvest progress in Colorado and Pennsylvania until late in the month, when the harvest pace accelerated.

Eighty-eight percent of the soybean acreage was dropping leaves by October 3, slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans ripened well ahead of normal along the Ohio and Mississippi River Valleys and slightly ahead of normal in the central and western Corn Belt. Crop development lagged slightly behind the 5-year average in the Great Plains. Ninety-three percent of the soybean crop was harvested by the end of the month, 7 percentage points ahead of the 5-year

average. The harvest pace accelerated in most areas of the Corn Belt early in the month, with only brief rain delays in northern Missouri, eastern Iowa, northern Illinois, and scattered areas of Indiana and Michigan. Brief rain delays also interrupted harvest progress in the Mississippi Delta early in the month. Precipitation from Hurricane Irene limited harvest activity in the Atlantic Coastal Plains, but progress remained slightly ahead of the normal pace in North and South Carolina. Near the end of the month, harvest was active in the southern Corn Belt, Mississippi Delta, and Southeast, as hot weather quickly ripened double-cropped and late-planted soybeans.

Winter wheat seeding was 53 percent complete October 3 and advanced to 89 percent complete by the end of the month. Sowing was aided by dry conditions in most areas of the Great Plains and eastern Corn Belt, but Oregon growers delayed planting due to dry soils. In the Corn Belt, growers planted soft red winter wheat as soon as row crops were harvested and fields prepared. Muddy fields and the slow harvest pace delayed planting in North Carolina. Twenty-six percent of the acreage was emerged by October 3, slightly ahead of the average. By October 31, 73 percent of the acreage was emerged, slightly behind normal. Dry soils hindered emergence in parts of the Corn Belt and Great Plains. Precipitation, some in the form of snow, provided much-needed moisture for germinating seeds in Kansas, Colorado, and the eastern corn Belt early in the month. By mid-month, stands were spotty and growth was uneven in some fields due to soil moisture shortages in some areas of the Corn Belt and Great Plains. Abundant sunshine promoted crop development where moisture was adequate, but below-normal temperatures limited growth for several days near mid-month.

POULTRY SLAUGHTER

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Oct 1998	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Oct 1998	Sep 1999	Oct 1999
Young Chickens . . .	Thous. Hd.	9,290	9,276	9,426	687,719	682,486	663,592
	Thous.	48,576	49,265	49,649	3,386,585	3,395,418	3,350,224
Mature Chickens . . .	Thous. Hd.	-	-	-	13,834	13,680	14,216
	Thous.	-	-	-	70,739	74,571	77,722
Young Turkeys	Thous. Hd.	1,025	¹	1,054	24,614	22,949	23,478
	Thous.	24,100	¹	23,695	594,694	576,284	595,208

¹ Figures are not available due to disclosure of individual operations.

FARM MARKETINGS OF FIELD CROPS 1997-98 & 1998-99 PERCENT OF SALES, BY MONTHS

Crop & Marketing Year	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
<u>CORN</u>													
PA 1997-98		9	16	12	14	4	4	7	3	5	5	7	14
1998-99		15	10	6	10	10	7	7	4	9	8	12	2
US 1997-98	6.2	14.1	11.3	8.1	14.8	6.7	7.4	5.2	5.3	7.4	6.2	7.3	
1998-99	7.5	13.9	10.3	7.2	12.7	7.6	9.0	4.8	4.3	5.8	7.4	9.5	
<u>SOYBEANS</u>													
US 1997-98	6.3	22.8	8.9	8.8	12.3	7.2	6.0	6.1	5.2	6.3	5.6	4.5	
1998-99	9.0	22.6	8.4	6.1	10.2	6.3	8.2	4.9	4.4	5.9	6.4	7.6	

CROP MARKETING SEASONS OF SPECIFIED FIELD CROPS

Corn for Grain August 1 to July 31 for Georgia and Texas; September 1 to August 31 for Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, and Ohio; October 1 to September 30 for all other monthly marketing estimating States.

Soybeans September 1 to August 31 for all estimating States.

BULK RATE
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USDA
PERMIT NO. G-38

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9405
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300